

**UNIFIED ARIZONA VETERANS (UAV), P.O. BOX 34338, PHOENIX, AZ 85067**

**MINUTES OF THE UAV GENERAL MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 7, 2012  
AT THE STATE VETERAN HOME, 4141 N. SILVESTRE HERRERA WAY,  
PHOENIX, AZ 85012**

**CALL TO ORDER:** 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Lew Bradley, followed by Invocation by Chaplain Bo Bohach, and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENTATION: “Guns to Salute the Fallen,” presented by Jim Drake,  
Secretary of State Ken Bennett’s Office**

Jim Drake from Secretary of State Bennett’s office updated UAV on the progress made in bringing guns from the USS ARIZONA (BB-39) and the USS MISSOURI (BB-63). Tax-deductible contributions are now being accepted: 1) web site: [www.gunstosalutethefallen.com](http://www.gunstosalutethefallen.com) or 2) Checks payable to: AZ SOS Guns Salute the Fallen Project, mail to:

AZ SOS Guns to Salute the Fallen Project  
1700 W. Washington St., 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

For information about Corporate Sponsors & Media Partnerships, phone 602.542.4285.

**PRESENTATION: “Operation Helping Hand” presented by Dr. Tom Steinhagen,  
in support of homeless veterans**

Dr. Steinhagen invited all veterans and the public to a community event, Operation Helping Hand, January 26<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> at Berge Ford, US 60 and Mesa Drive. For 4 days, he will live and fast in a wrecked car. Donations of gently used jeans and cash are welcome. Web site: [StandupandStandProud.org](http://StandupandStandProud.org)  
Tel. 480.832.2466

**PRESENTATION: “February 3-5, 2012 Arizona StandDown” – Art Sloane and  
Tina Freeman**

Art Sloane reported that 502 homeless veterans were helped in 2008 to 1,048 helped in February 2011. Project Connect still needs volunteer escorts to help walk homeless veteran registrants through the various services provided at the Veterans Coliseum. 150 bicycles, 100 sweat suits, and 1200 pairs of boots have been donated. MSVA/Madison Street Vets Association has 2 vans to transport homeless vets to the Vets Coliseum. Funds are still needed to meet the StandDown expenses.

Ken Yamanouchi presented a check from MOAA to Art Sloane.

**ROLL CALL:** Quorum established for conducting business.

One correction to the December 3<sup>rd</sup> Minutes received: “Pima County” vice “City of Tucson” (Page 1). Minutes approved as amended.

**TREASURER’S REPORT** presented by Treasurer Jesse Gersten. Report is on file with the Secretary.

**SICKNESS AND DISTRESS:** Mel Brody, per doctor’s orders, is recuperating at home.

## **REPORTS:**

**1. VA Medical Center** – Karen Sparks, Patient Advocate, reported that Brad Curry will be reporting aboard VAMC Phoenix, VISN 18. The Patient Advocate office is receiving about 130 messages daily.

**2. Arizona Dept of Veterans’ Services – Dave Hampton, Public Affairs Officer,** reported that the Dept is working on: Camp Navajo (veterans cemetery and 120-bed capacity Veterans Home) : the land survey is completed and the next step is the official transfer of the land.

Southern AZ/Sierra Vista - \$5 million will be funded, expansion to be completed by July 2013.

The Veterans Donation Fund is a special fund (source: sale of veterans license plates). A sunset audit has resulted in new procedures.

Upcoming event: June 16, 2012, 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Military and Women Veterans Conference, El Zaribah Shrine Auditorium in Phoenix with videoteleconference in Tucson.

Legislature: 50<sup>th</sup> Session starts January 9<sup>th</sup>. At 2 pm, Gov Brewer will present her “State of the State” address. Newest Committee Name Change: Veterans Military and Govt Affairs Committee. 4 bills are pre-filed. The Battleship Guns bill will be introduced by Representative John Nelson, Northwest Valley. HB 2042, Pat Tillman Legacy Act, will be introduced by Representative Michelle Ugenti.

**3. UAV Board of Directors: Chairman Bradley** reported that UAV Incorporation papers are being submitted to IRS. To be eligible for 501©(3) tax status, UAV cannot lobby, however, we can support legislation.

Registration continues for the 2012 Copper Sword/Copper Shield Ceremonies event scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 9, 2012 at the Fiesta Resort Conference Center, 2100 S. Priest Drive, Tempe. Barbara Hatch, history teacher at Cactus Shadows High School and advisor to the students’ Arizona Heritage Project, will be the recipient of the Copper Sword Award. Jerry Weiers, legislator, will be the recipient of the Copper Shield Award.

Entrée choices are Beef, Chicken Marsala, and Vegetarian. A scholarship will also be awarded . Cost of the meal after Jan 1st: \$49.

On January 6<sup>th</sup> Chairman Bradley signed the contract to reserve the El Zaribah Shrine Auditorium for the October 26<sup>th</sup> Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Luncheon.

**4. UAV Legislative Committee:** David Lucier, UAV Legislative Chair, reported that the Arizona Patriot's Pledge is now available for signing.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**1. December 7, 2011 Commemoration of Pearl Harbor Day – Chairman Bradley**

The December 7<sup>th</sup> event was a huge success, with thanks to Judy Hatch, Lew Bradley, AZDVS Deputy Director Bob Barnes, AZDVS PAO/Master of Ceremonies Dave Hampton, and Marshall Trimble.

Thank You Letters were distributed to organizations which participated in the December 7<sup>th</sup> Remember Pearl Harbor Ceremony (Judy Hatch).

Dave Willis is taking orders for CD/DVD of the 12/7/11 event for \$5 total.

**2. UAV Incorporation** – Discussion included the statement that Section 501©(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) protects UAV's name and its officers from being sued. Motion to incorporate UAV made by Mel Brody and seconded by Dave Willis. Motion carried.

**3. Reminder: UAV dues are due for the 2012 year.** Dues renewal forms are available from Treasurer Gersten or Secretary Culbertson. Please turn in your Renewal Form and \$25 to Treasurer Gersten.

**4. Reminder: Nominations for the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame, Class of 2012, are due on April 30, 2012 (postmark due date).** Mail to: Unified AZ Veterans, P.O. Box 34338, Phoenix 85067.

#### **NEW BUSINESS/OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**1. Ken Yamanouchi was installed** as a UAV Director by Chairman Bradley.

**2. Reggie Yates was introduced** by Vice Chair Madden. Reggie is emailing "Highlights of our UAV Meetings to a growing Veterans Email List.

**3. Immediate Past UAV Chair Bob Delker presented Thank You Certificates** to UAV Officers Lew Bradley, Carol Culbertson, and Jesse Gersten.

**4. Bo Bohach announced** he will stay on as UAV Chaplain and Sgt at Arms; and is stepping down from serving as a UAV Director. Norm Ross volunteered to replace Bo Bohach.

#### **GOOD OF THE ORDER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Veterans who missed high school graduation due to reporting for active duty, see Art Sloane to participate at this year's Hamilton High School graduation ceremony.
2. January 24, 2012, 11:30 am: Veterans and the public invited to Ron Olive's talk on "United States v. Jonathan Pollard." Ron Olive is NCIS Agent, Retired. Pollard was sentenced to life in prison for selling classified information to Israel. Macayo's Restaurant, 4001 N. Central Ave, Phoenix (Carol Culbertson)
3. January 29, 2 pm, Tucson, Ajo Way & 40<sup>th</sup>, Annual Veterans Memorial honoring the four chaplains on the USS DORCHESTER who gave their lives due to a shortage of life preservers, February 3, 1943 (Norm Ross).
4. Reminder – February 3-5, 2012 Arizona StandDown still seeking volunteers and financial support; donations small and larger are appreciated.
5. Reminder – February 9, 2012 Copper Sword/Copper Shield Event, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm., Fiesta Resort Conference Center, Tempe, AZ (Chuck Schluter).
6. February 25, 2012: Iwo Jima Flag Raising Commemoration at Sacaton (Al Kerstetter)
7. 50/50 Raffle winner: Jeannie Botwright, \$16; with \$15 to the Treasury.

**Next Meeting: February 4, 2012, State Veteran Home, Liberty Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 10 am to Noon.**

Closing prayer was given by Chaplain Bohach.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,

CAROL CULBERTSON  
Secretary, Unified Arizona Veterans  
Office/fax: 602.943.7834  
Email: [claudhec@yahoo.com](mailto:claudhec@yahoo.com)